

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062-2000  
202/463-5310

September 18, 2008

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DOCKETS

2008 SEP 30 A 10:12

The Honorable Mary Peters  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Docket DOT-OST-2008-0252

Dear Madam Secretary:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, urges you to approve the joint application for antitrust immunity recently filed by American Airlines in conjunction with its transatlantic oneworld partners—British Airways, Iberia Airlines of Spain, Finnair, and Royal Jordanian. The Chamber strongly supports this effort and respectfully encourages your expeditious review of this application and its approval by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Among its many benefits, this application would enable these five oneworld alliance airlines that operate transatlantic service to work closely together to deliver highly competitive flight schedules, fares and service as well as compete on an equal footing with the Star and SkyTeam alliances, which currently enjoy broad antitrust immunity for transatlantic flights.

Furthermore, granting this request will enable leisure and business customers to enjoy more convenient and seamless travel aboard nearly 9,000 daily departures to more than 660 destinations in the over 130 countries currently served by American Airlines, American Eagle and their oneworld partners. In total, customers of American Airlines alone will gain access to 207 new international airports/destinations.

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Thank you, Madame Secretary, for your consideration. DOT's approval of this application will enhance competition while simultaneously generating significant benefits for consumers and the business community by fostering new and expanded transatlantic service, integrated corporate contracts, fare combinability, reciprocal frequent flyer programs, and facility rationalization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. L. L. L." with a stylized flourish at the end.